

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

MAR 16 2000

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

In the Matter of

Amendment of Section 73.202(b)
Table of Allotments,
FM Broadcast Stations,
(Spencer and Webster, Massachusetts)

MM Docket No. 00-8
RM-9788

To: Chief, Allocations Branch:

REPLY COMMENTS AND REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED ACTION
OF MONTACHUSETT BROADCASTING, INC.

Montachusett Broadcasting, Inc. ("Montachusett Broadcasting"), licensee of Station WORC-FM, Channel 255A, Spencer, Massachusetts, by its attorney, hereby submits its Reply Comments in response to the Notice of Proposed Rule Making ("Notice") adopted by the Chief of the Allocations Branch in the above-captioned proceeding on January 5, 2000 (DA 00-68, released on January 14, 2000). In support thereof, the following is shown:

The Notice. In the Notice, the Chief of the Allocation Branch proposed to reallocate Channel 255A from Spencer to Webster and modify the license of Station WORC-FM to specify Webster as the community of license. The Notice recounted the efforts of Montachusett Broadcasting, Inc. to implement the reallocation of Channel 255A from Webster to Spencer as mandated by a Report and Order in MM Docket 98-174, 14 FCC Rcd. 214 (1999).

Notwithstanding such extensive efforts, the record in this proceeding shows that there is no

transmitter site available that would enable WORC-FM to comply with the Commission engineering and local zoning requirements.

An Unopposed Rulemaking Proposal. No parties filed Comments in opposition to the proposed reallocation of Channel 255A from Webster to Spencer. No Comments were filed in response to the Notice other than the Comments of Montachusett Broadcasting, Inc. wherein it stated its intention to apply for Channel 255A if the channel is reallocated to Webster and if authorized, to continue to operate with Station WORC-FM's former facilities at Webster.

Joint Request for Expedited Processing. On February 4, 2000, the Mass Media Bureau granted an application to assign the license of Station WORC-FM to Citadel Broadcasting Company (File No. BALH-19991209AAJ). Section 13.20 of the Asset Purchase Agreement dated December 3, 1999, by and among Montachusett Broadcasting, Robin B. Martin, James P. Williams, Jr., Citadel Broadcasting Company and Citadel License, Inc. provides that the obligation of Citadel Broadcasting Company to close the Station WORC-FM transaction is subject to the condition that "[t]he FCC shall have granted the Petition for Rule Making and issued an order in the resulting rule making proceeding reallocating FM channel 255A for Spencer, Massachusetts, to Webster, Massachusetts."^{1/} The closing of the aforementioned transaction has been delayed until action is taken by the Mass Media Bureau in this proceeding. Montachusett Broadcasting and Citadel Broadcasting Company respectfully request that the Mass Media Bureau take expedited action in the instant rulemaking proceeding.

^{1/} As pointed out in the Comments of Montachusett Broadcasting, Inc., Citadel Broadcasting Company has advised the undersigned counsel that it will apply for Channel 255A if the channel is allotted to Webster and if authorized, to continue to operate with Station WORC-FM's former facilities at Webster.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, Montachusett Broadcasting, Inc. respectfully requests that the Chief of the Allocations Branch amend the Table of Assignments by reallocoting Channel 255A from Spencer to Webster, and that Station WORC-FM be allowed to continue to operate at its present site (N42-02-10, W71-5923) with its currently licensed facilities (1.85kw at 25 meters HAAT) pursuant to Section 73.213(c)(1) of the Commission's rules.

Respectfully submitted

MONTACHUSETT BROADCASTING, INC.

By 
Erwin G. Krasnow

Verner, Liipfert, Bernhard, McPherson and Hand
901 15th Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005

Its Attorney

March 16, 2000

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

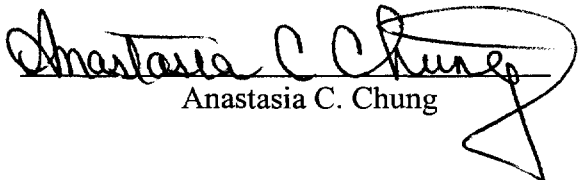
This is to certify that I, Anastasia C. Chung, have filed the foregoing "Comments of Montachusett Broadcasting, Inc." with the Federal Communications Commission on this 16th day of March 2000, and that a copy has been served by hand upon:

John Karousos, Esq.
Chief, Allocations Branch
Mass Media Bureau, Room 3-A266
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Roy Stewart, Esq.
Chief, Mass Mass Media Bureau
Room 2-C347
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Robert Hayne, Esq.
Allocations Branch, Room 3-A262
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Kathleen A. Kirby, Esq.
Wiley Rein & Fielding
1776 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006


Anastasia C. Chung